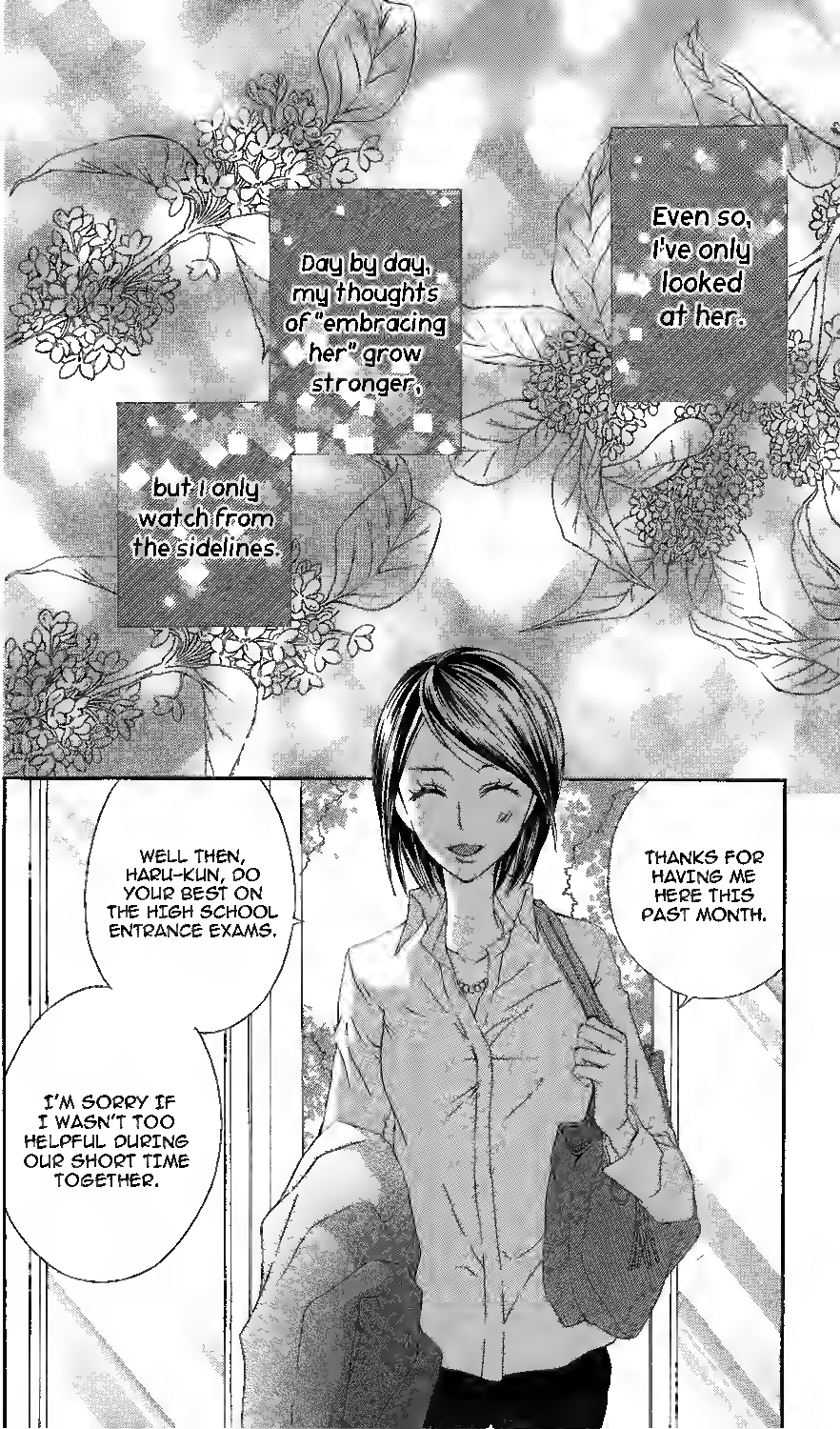
Tsuyuri Ogiwara
Shy's Red Thread

I've always noticed
Kinuko-san.

.....
HARU-KUN, YOUR HOUSE HAS MANY FRAGRANT OLIVE TREES, DOESN'T IT?
.....YES.
KINUKO-SAN, DO YOU LIKE FRAGRANT OLIVE TREES?
A female college student and a middle school boy...
...holding hands is a bit farfetched.


Even so, I've only looked at her.
Day by day, my thoughts of "embracing her" grow stronger,
but I only watch from the sidelines.
THANKS FOR HAVING ME HERE THIS PAST MONTH.
WELL THEN, HARU-KUN, DO YOUR BEST ON THE HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS.
I'M SORRY IF I WASN'T TOO HELPFUL DURING OUR SHORT TIME TOGETHER.

HEY! HARU, YOU TOO! SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR TUTOR!
OH NO! I SHOULD BE THANKING YOU FOR TAKING CARE OF MY IDIOT SON
HERE, PLEASE TAKE THIS FRAGRANT OLIVE SYRUP
JUST DILUTE IT WITH SOME WARM WATER AND DRINK IT
...Today's the last day.
HARU!

I can't be careless anymore.
I'LL... WALK TO YOU THE BUS STOP.
I'M FROM THE RURAL AREAS OF FUKUOKA, SO THIS FEELS SO NOSTALGIC.
IT'S ONLY IN THESE GREEN AREAS IN TOKYO THAT WE CAN FEEL SO CAREFREE, HUH?
.....
WHY ARE YOU GOING TO STOP BEING MY TUTOR?
I'M USELESS WITHOUT YOU, KINUKO-SAN.

...YOUR SCORES HAVE FALLEN...
Well, not really.
Squeeze
.....
THAT'S BECAUSE
THE TRUTH IS, YOUR MOM TOLD ME SHE WANTED TO CHANGE TUTORS.
I'M SORRY FOR TUTORING YOU SO POORLY.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S MY CHILDHOOD DREAM TO BECOME A TEACHER...
LATELY I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT I'M NOT CUT OUT FOR IT. IT'S BEEN TROUBLING ME
VROOM
OH, THE BUS IS HERE.
See ya
.....
KINUKO-SAN, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.

HUH?
MY GRADES DROPPED BECAUSE
. WHEN YOU TUTOR ME, I ONLY PAY ATTENTION TO YOU
...I LIKE YOU.

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN CONSCIOUS OF YOU.
AND YOU TOO KINUKO-SAN,
YOU'VE BEEN DRAWN TO ME, RIGHT?

Shuu
Squeak
I'M...
...SO SORRY.
VROOOM
SHUUP

It's Haru-senpai!
Ah!
Eh?
.....
...confessed to her thinking she would like me too but,
was I wrong?
May we take a picture with you?
Is that okay?
What's ..
...with this?
Is your house around here?
Eh?
Could it be that I...

That can't be.
KINUKO! I HAVE NEWS!
Cough
Cough
Cough
DID YOU CATCH A COLD? ARE YOU OKAY?
WELL, I WAS OUT ON MY BALCONY THINKING ABOUT THINGS AND THIS JUST KINDA HAPPENED.

SOME CUTE YOUNG BOY IN A SCHOOL UNIFORM IS WAITING FOR YOU.
since morning
..SO YOU SAID YOU HAD NEWS?
RIGHT!
WHY. .
PERKS UP
OH! KINUKO-SAN. ♡
YOU LEFT THE PRESENT MY MOM GAVE YOU AT THE BUS STOP.
AND...

I'VE COME TO GET A PROPER ANSWER FROM YOU.
MY CONFESSION
Cough
.....
COUGH
COUGH
Part
HOLD ON! I'M OPENING IT!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH

Dizzy
IT'S OKAY, I WON'T LOOK
I'LL JUST BE BY YOUR SIDE
THUD
NO...
DON'T LOOK AT ME!

"Right now, sensei needs to rest and I'm pushing you."
"I can see that I am just a child and immature right now."
"Sensei, I'm sorry."
"Please use this fragrant olive syrup and get well."
"Don't worry..."

A FRAGRANT OLIVE LEAF?
.....
WHO ARE YOU?

rattle
clatter
startled
HUH?
THIS IS MY ROOM...
A DREAM...?
THANKS, MAYA-CHAN
I'll have some
Thanks for the change of clothes too
RUMBLE
DO YOU REMEMBER GOING TO THE HOSPITAL?
They said you just caught a cold
THAT CUTE YOUNG BOY TOOK YOU THERE
OH! DID I WAKE YOU UP?
Sorry
WANNA HAVE SOME CONGEE?
HARU-KUN DID...?
HE ALSO CARRIED YOU BACK HERE.
But I drove!

HE WROTE DOWN HIS CELLPHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS ON THIS PAPER.
HE SAID TO CALL HIM IF ANYTHING COMES UP.
BEEP BEEP BEEP
What a good boy.
Uhm.
THANK YOU FOR HELPING ME TODAY.
ARE YOU AT HOME NOW? CAN YOU TALK ON THE PHONE?
RIGHT NOW?
HE-
HELLO THIS IS KINUKO!
HARU-KUN?
...RIGHT NOW, I'M OUTSIDE OF KINUKO-SAN'S APARTMENT COMPLEX.

SO IF WE WERE ALONE TOGETHER IN YOUR ROOM,
...I WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
This is bad...
Shoot!!
ARE YOU... TO MY PLACE?
I wanted to think you...
.....
Um...
N-NO! I CAN'T KINUKO-SAN!!
PUSH
.....
I KEPT THINKING ABOUT IT AND SOMEHOW JUST FOUND MYSELF HERE...
THIS MIGHT BE A LITTLE ABSURD, BUT...
...TODAY I WAS SO HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO TOUCH THE PERSON I LOVE.

blush
search
FOR ME, IT'S NOT A "I WANT TO LAND YOU" KIND OF FEELING. I WANT YOU TO BE BY MY SIDE SO I CAN CHERISH YOU
BUT KINUKO-SAN YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE I COULDN'T JUST BLURT MY FEELINGS TO
slip
UNTIL NOW, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO QUICKLY TELL GIRLS MY FEELINGS,
BECAUSE THEY WOULD TAKEN BY SOMEONE ELSE IF I DION'T.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE FELT THIS WAY

...as a an annoying middle school stalker...
DOO—
DOO—
DOO—
GACHA GACHA
CLICK.
DOO—
DOO—
...SHE HUNG UP.
This sucks.
Kinuko-san only sees me.
Thinking that Kinuko-san would like me...
...was pretty stupid.
...I knew it.

HARU-KUN, WAIT...!!
!
KIDUKO-SAN, RUNNING LIKE THAT IN THE CONDITION YOU'RE IN...
ARE YOU OKAY?
EARLIER TODAY
pant
pant
pant
-FOR-
CATCHING ME
AND CARRYING ME TO THE HOSPITAL,
THANK YOU
AND ALSO,
YESTERDAY WHEN YOU CONFESSED TO ME,
I WAS REALLY,

REALLY HAPPY.
I WAS SO, SO HAPPY,
THAT I COULDN'T SLEEP
I SPENT THE WHOLE NIGHT THINKING ABOUT YOU
I GOT SICK BECAUSE OF THAT
I'VE ALSO ALWAYS BEEN
WATCHING YOU
Huh? Is this a dream?
Kinuko-san also likes me...

FUKUOKA IS TOO FAR FROM TOKYO, OUR LOVE CAN'T CONTINUE.
IN SPRING, AFTER I GRADUATE FROM UNIVERSITY,
I'M GOING TO BECOME A TEACHER AT MY ALMA MATER.
BUT,
...WE CAN'T DO IT.
"I'd like if it he wasn't affected by this until his entrance exam."
"Anyone could tell just by looking that my kid is in a trance with you."
AND YOUR MOTHER.
...DOESN'T WANT ME AROUND YOU RIGHT NOW.

HARU-KUN, I'M SURE YOU'LL MEET SOMEONE REALLY WONDERFUL...
...Why?
After going through all those painful emotions...
...I hate this.
.....
I DON'T WANT YOU TO GO!
I... MIGHT BE A STUPID BRAT BUT,
THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN REPLACE YOU, KINUKO-SAN!
I WOULD LOVE YOU UNTIL DEATH!

I've always been watching Kinuko-san.
I DON'T...
...WANT TO LEAVE EITHER
pant
pant
Kinuko-san loves me too...
I LOVE YOU HARU-KUN...
...I'LL DO MY BEST ON THE ENTRANCE EXAM,
SO IF I PASS, KINUKO-SAN..

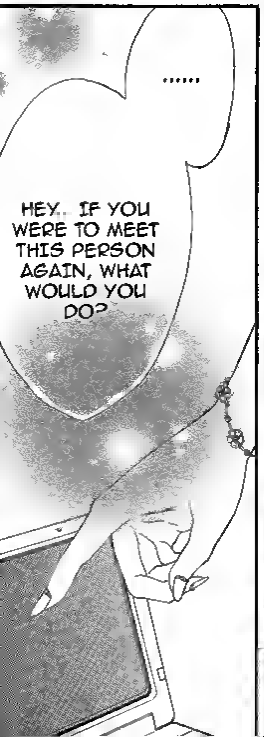
PLEASE BE MINE.
...OKAY.
.....
No matter where I went, I could smell sweet fragrant olives.
Drowned in rain,
the next morning, everything blurred away.

Always looking for Kinuko-san, I entered university.
IT'S SUPER CLOSE TO MY HOUSE...
Four years have passed since then...
In the end,
Back then, I was barely able to make it into my dream high school.
I went dashing into Kinuko-san's room, but it was empty.
Kinuko-san ran away from me.
HARU—

YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING AT THAT SINCE HIGH SCHOOL, HUH.....
Click
GEH!
YOU'RE LOOKING AT THAT WEBSITE AGAIN...

ARE YOU COMING TO ZEMI'S DRINKING PARTY TODAY?
THERE'LL BE PLENTY OF YOUR TYPE OF GIRLS THERE~~~

Fukuoka Prefecture, Yamada Senior High School
Asai Kinuko
<Current Country>
WHAT A WOMAN, TO GO BACK TO HER HOMETOWN AND BREAK HER PROMISE WITH HARU
JUST FORGET ABOUT HER ALREADY


.....
HEY.. IF YOU WERE TO MEET THIS PERSON AGAIN, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

DIDN'T YOU HAVE A NEW GIRLFRIEND EVERY 3 MONTHS?
BUT, MAN THAT WAS ONE TOUGH SPRING, HUH .
WELL... NO,
I TURNED THEM ALL DOWN.

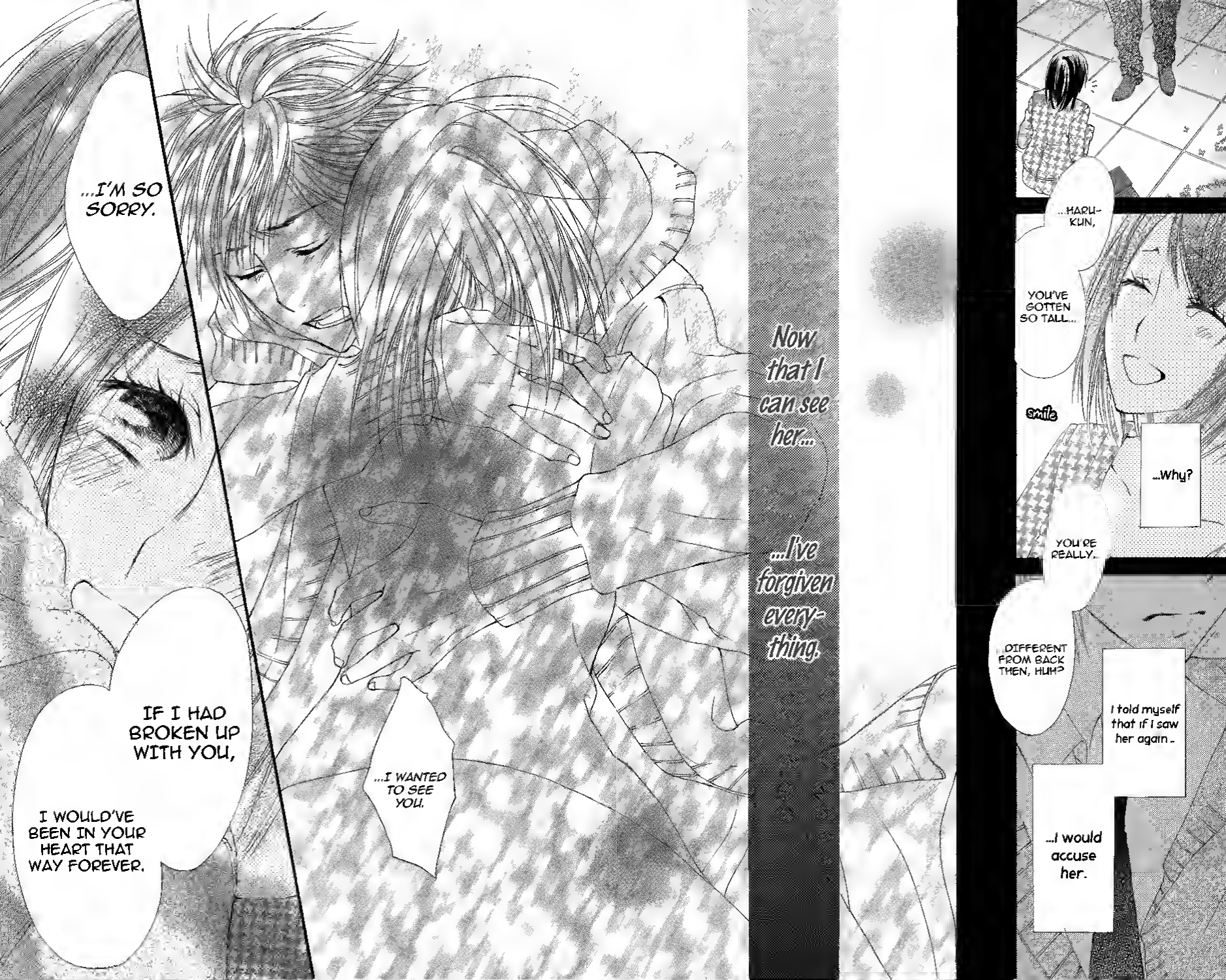
SHE'S LIVING HER DREAM IN HER HOMETOWN WOULD SOMEONE LIKE HER NORMALLY RISK ALL THAT BY GOING OUT WITH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT?
Well
IF IT WERE YOU, WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?
HM...

I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING
SHE'S A WISHY-WASHY, LYING WOMAN...
WELL, I HAVE TO GO TO WORK NOW I WON'T BE GOING TO THE PARTY TONIGHT
WHAT WORK?
.....
TUTORING A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT.
.....
HE'S SO NOT OVER IT...
...I became frustrated.
THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE TODAY
.. every time memories of Kinuko-san surface.
I want to completely erase the embarrassing me of the past.

that cannot stir about.
...Though I say that, this season blooming full of fragrant olives...
...still brings back such pain.
THE FRAGRANT OLIVE POEM WHAT WAS IT AGAIN?
Look it up in my mobile—
WELL THEN THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME AT THE FACULTY MEETING
Yes yes
how
I WAS RELIEVED TO FIND THAT YOU WERE WORKING SO DILIGENTLY TOWARDS ATTAINING YOUR TEACHING LICENSE
I WAS VERY CONCERNED WHEN YOUR FATHER PASSED AWAY BEFORE YOUR GRADUATION, HOWEVER
That sweet honey, sealed air tight. Looking like that fragrant olive,
The fragrant olive syrup my mom made
"The Radiance of Memories"
"First Love."
THE FRAGRANT OLIVE POEM
I'LL SEND THE DOCUMENTS OVER TO FUKUOKA
THANK YOU VERY MUCH

..Huh?
Is she really Kinuko-san?
She hasn't changed one bit.
...such a nostalgic voice.
.....HARU... KUN?
.....
.....
.....

...HARU-KUN!
DASH
Crouch
I probably seem so uncool right now!
Purposely entering the same university as Kinuko-san
it makes it seem like I'm still attached to her!
WAIT...
AH!
HALT
OW


...I'M SO SORRY.
IF I HAD BROKEN UP WITH YOU,
I WOULD'VE BEEN IN YOUR HEART THAT WAY FOREVER.
...I WANTED TO SEE YOU.
Now that I can see her...
...I've forgiven every-thing.
...HARU-KUN,
YOU'VE GOTTEN SO TALL...
smile
...Why?
YOU'RE REALLY...
...DIFFERENT FROM BACK THEN, HUH?
I told myself that if I saw her again...
...I would accuse her.

I THOUGHT AFTER I BECAME YOURS, WE WOULD NEVER SEPARATE,
BUT MY FATHER SUDDENLY PASSED AWAY, AND MY MOM COULDN'T HANDLE THINGS ALONE.
...AT THAT TIME I DID THE ONLY THING I COULD.
I'M REALLY SORRY
I'M SUCH A HORRIBLE AND MISERLY WOMAN
It's the scent of my memories with Kinuko-san.
...My senses are filled with,
the scent of fragrant olives.
KINUKO-SAN, WITHOUT YOU
...THERE WAS A GAPING HOLE IN MY CHEST

I TRIED TO FIND SOMEONE TO FILL UP THAT HOLE, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK.
EVEN IF YOU'RE MISERLY AND HORRIBLE,
I LOVE YOU.
IT HAS TO YOU, KINUKO-SAN. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FILL IT.
DON'T...
...DISAPPEAR ANYMORE.

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http://haruhime.net/forum

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Thanks for reading, and we hope you enjoy this release!
-HaruHime Staff

〈金木犀少年シロップ〉＊おわり＊Cheese!2009年11月号増刊に掲載

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